

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-15, 19, 20 and 22-25 remain in this application. Claims 5, 6, and 25 have been amended. Claims 2, 4, 18 and 21 have previously been cancelled. Due to an interest in obtaining a patent with the allowed subject matter, Applicant elects to pursue other rejected claims in a further application. Claims 1, 3, 16 and 17 have been withdrawn in favor of a continuing application. Claims 26-57 have previously been withdrawn due to a restriction requirement; Applicant reserves the right to present claims 26-57 in a continuing or divisional application.

1. Allowed Claims/Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 5-15, 19, 20 and 22-25. The claims have been rewritten in independent form including the base claim and any intervening claim.

2. § 112 Rejections

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's withdrawal of the §112 1st rejection in the final office action.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 5-17, 19, 20 and 22-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner asserts that claim 1 is indefinite for reciting "adapted to". Claims 5 and 6, and any claim dependent thereon, now include the limitations of independent claim 1. The term "adapted to" has been deleted for clarification.

3. § 102 Rejections

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's withdrawal of the § 102 rejection.

4. Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims 5-15, 19, 20 and 22-25 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.


Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Melissa K. Dobson at (607) 974-3673.

Respectfully submitted,

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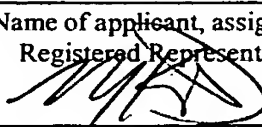
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